

Minutes of ALB Meeting on
February 12, 2020

Attendance

ALB: Kathy Schluter, Mike Stoehr, Dick Barnes, Sean Gaffney, John Frunceck, Sharon Garrett, Julie Whitney

Staff: Pastor Matt, Nell Nash, Dan Murphy, Pam Vaughan

Guests: Craig Walker, Laurie Jeffrey, Roanne Barnes, CJ Neville, Shere-Ling Kraus-Yao

Mike opened the meeting with prayer.

Approval of Minutes - Kathy

The minutes of the January meeting were approved with one correction.

Devotion - Pastor Matt

In connection with his upcoming sermon on "Can't Buy Me Love", Pastor Matt asked what money can buy - responses included shelter, food, security, and medicine. He then noted that money can't love you back and it is important to combine faith with stewardship of gifts.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Matt

Pastor Matt is looking at two tour companies for the Holy Land trip -Educational Opportunities (favored) and Gate 1.

With the bad weather, worship attendance during January and February has been down but livestream use is up.

Joelle, Nell and Matt have produced a draft time and talent survey.

Conference Information Sessions

The Annual Conference will hold informational sessions on the denominational issues coming before the General Conference in May. The two in our area will be on March 19 at 6 pm at Waukesha First and on April 4 at 1 pm at Milwaukee Central. The General Conference will be in Minneapolis from May 5-15. The Wisconsin Annual Conference will be June 5-8 in Green Bay and a special Annual Conference will be held on September 12 in the Dells to discuss our response to the General Conference vote. Finally, a Jurisdictional Conference will be held on July 15-18 where Conference lines may be redrawn and new bishops could be appointed. It is possible that some progressive churches will also break away from the United Methodist denomination.

Church Security

Pastor Matt initiated a discussion about church safety. A mentally ill man had walked into and disrupted both worship services on February 9. The man did not threaten anyone but also did not respond to various attempts to converse with him and had to be asked to leave when the church was closed at 1 pm. We asked what would have happened if he had had a gun. Although the church is a gun-free zone, we have no means or team to enforce the rule or to provide security. Matt asked if we could incur

liability by not enforcing our gun restriction. We decided that Matt would ask the Village police to recommend security measures and discuss security practices with the Christ Episcopal and Santa Monica churches.

New Church Role - Craig Walker

Craig will retire at the end of February and has agreed to take on Special Projects for the Church. Craig anticipates that initially he will spend one day per week at the church and focus on Trustees, finance issues and the execution of the Strategic Plan. Craig will also help Joelle and Christy with Shelby Next questions, review privacy issues with Brady Henderson and help develop a giving app. He does not plan to do any staff management. Craig also plans to travel one week per month, work with an executive consulting company on special assignments and start a photography business.

Recent and Upcoming Events - All

Ash Wednesday - February 26

Children's Musical, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego" - March 15

Easter - April 12

Rummage Sale - April 26 Commitment Sunday with sermon series, "Four-Wheel Drive Finances" - May 10

Confirmation - May 17

All-Church Meeting - Pastor Matt

There will be an All-Church meeting after services on Sunday, February 16. The key topics will be the denominational split, the Christ Scientist proposal and the Strategic Plan. A draft agenda was distributed.

Strategic Plan Initiatives and Dashboard - Kathy

Kathy reviewed the "dashboard" that will be used to plan the steps of initiatives under the Strategic Plan. Betsy Hoylman, a member of the Strategic Planning Team, presented the dashboard to the staff at the February 5 staff meeting. The dashboards will be due on Monday, February 24.

Trustees - Dick

Church Roof Update - the amended roof consulting contract was signed on January 23. The consultant will conduct a walk through for interested roofing contractors in March and accept bids thereafter.

Foundation of 820 and 816 - Trustees approved \$13,000 for adding foundation supports to both houses this spring. A painting contractor will paint the stairway walls of 816.

Sale of 810 E. Glen - Laurie Jeffery, Nell Nash, Dan Murphy, Dick Barnes, and Kathy Schluter reviewed the east lot line on 810 in preparation for selling the house. The 810/816 lot line will be shifted west to include the entire width of the 816 driveway and the Church Walk on the 816 lot. Because the redrawn 810/816 lot line will violate the setback requirement along the 810 house, confirmation is being sought from the Village

that the violation will not hinder future development of the lot.

Proposed Christ Scientist Development

WiRED Properties has not yet submitted a final proposal to the Village, possibly because it is seeking funding for the \$400,000 cost of burying utility wires. Nevertheless, we have learned that Village staff and the Village President are promoting the proposal in public meetings. Therefore, we have decided to initiate the letter writing campaign after the All-Church meeting. A letter, email template and contact information for the Village Trustees and Plan Commission members will be sent to the congregation.

The church also sent a letter to the Village asking them to enforce deed restrictions on a portion of the property that granted the Village the option to purchase the parcel and required 30% of the parcel to be used for parking. The Village responded that the Trustees had considered the option in closed session last May and declined to exercise it. It also claimed that the 30% requirement would be met by the development.

SPR Report - Dick

Staff reviews are underway. Each staff member will be interviewed by an SPRT member, one other staff member and Pastor Matt.

The assessment of Pastor Matt was sent to ALB and staff. Some staff members expressed a desire to have an interview with Pastor Matt and a representative of SPRT and ALB instead of completing the survey and/or to identify themselves on their assessment. Since the survey is anonymous, we agreed to offer that option by sending the survey out as a Word document.

Technology Report - John

John proposed conducting a security audit of the church network, including identifying who has access to private data and how volunteers log into the system to enter data. Steve Brooke would conduct the audit.

Financial Update - Sean

The church had a net operating deficit at the end of January of \$12,724.46 compared to \$4,945.17 deficit at this time last year. The church typically carries deficits during the winter months and pulls even at Easter.

The Capital Campaign has received \$831,345 and has a cash balance of \$165,186. The Special Roof Appeal has received \$315,746 and paid \$2,271 for the patch of the flat roof over the education wing. \$20,230 has been received toward the \$25,000 matching grant.

Foundation Annual Report - Roanne Barnes

The Foundation distributed \$41,375 in 2019. Grants included \$20,000 to the church roof repair, \$3,000 for Chapel technology and TV screens, \$3,000 for Journey to Bethlehem and \$4800 for the All-Saints Day orchestra. Accumulated income was sent to maintenance, missions, youth and UMCOR and \$1,500 was transferred to the church hospitality fund. Although most grant requests are initiated by Pastor Matt or staff,

church members can also request grants from the Foundation for special church projects. The Foundation meets quarterly to review grant requests.

Scrip Update - Craig Walker

Scrip is earning about \$4800 per year. Sunday morning sales are increasing while on-line sales have fallen off. Roundy's refusal to reload cards on-line has reduced Scrip usage.

ALB Assessment - Kathy

The ALB is conducting its annual self-assessment. A question was raised about the possibility of a congregational survey on the church ministries, ALB, pastors and staff.

John closed the meeting in prayer.

The next ALB meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10 at 6:30 pm in the Youth Room.

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen Schluter